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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/764,901	01/26/2004	Michael D. Hillman	29498/30004A	2723

4743 7590 12/29/2005

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EXAMINER

JOHNSON, BLAIR M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3634

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 3634

The reply filed on 9/30/05 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): The election of the invention of group I is proper. However, the election of a species is not proper. After the listing of the different categories of species, the following statement appears: "One each of these categories must be chosen." This means that one blind system, one take-up system; one brake system; one counterbalance system; and one bottom rail weight must be chosen. In light of Applicant's response, namely the mentioning of claims 19 and 20, these two claims appear to recite two different embodiments: the one having a "release button" and the one having the squeeze brake. Consequently, Applicant must select one of each species category. Certain species of one group may only be compatible with a certain species of another group. For instance, a certain brake may not be compatible with, for example, the blind of Figs. 27 and 28. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment.

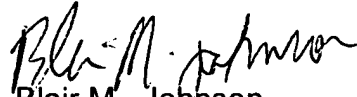
EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Blair M. Johnson whose telephone number is (571) 272-6830. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Chilcot can be reached on (571) 272-6777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3634

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Blair M. Johnson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3634

BMJ
12/22/05